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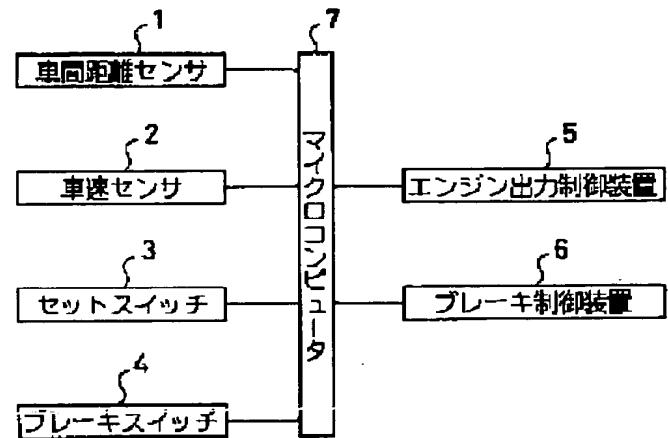
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TITLE : FOLLOW-UP TRAVEL CONTROL
 DEVICE FOR VEHICLE



ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To ensure safety or the like by keeping the immediately prior acceleration or deceleration speed value over the preset time, when an inter-vehicle distance detection means no longer detects a preceding vehicle at the time of determining the acceleration or deceleration speed target value of an own vehicle to keep the measured value of an inter-vehicle distance at a target value, and controlling the driving force of the own vehicle on the basis of the determination.

CONSTITUTION: A preceding vehicle is detected and then a distance from an own vehicle to the preceding vehicle is measured with an inter-vehicle distance sensor 1. Furthermore, the speed of the own vehicle is detected with a speed sensor 2. In addition, the mode of constant speed travel or follow-up travel is set with a setting switch 3. On the other hand, a driver's brake operation is detected with a brake switch 4. In this case, the acceleration or deceleration speed target value of the own vehicle is decided with a microcomputer 7, so that the measured value of a distance between the own and preceding vehicles becomes equal to the target value. Furthermore, engine output or a brake is controlled with control devices 5 and 6, depending upon the target value of the acceleration or deceleration. In this case, when the sensor 1 no longer detects the preceding vehicle at the follow-up travel, the immediately prior acceleration or deceleration target value is held within the preset time for controlling the own vehicle.

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